May 19, 2014

The Honorable Bill Shuster United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Shuster,

The membership of the Tennessee River Valley Association would like to thank you for your leadership and commitment to our nation's water resources infrastructure and request your continued support for H.R. 3080, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014.

As you well know, our water resources infrastructure provides life-saving flood control, needed water supplies, shore protection, water-based recreation, environmental restoration, and hydropower production, essential to our economic well-being. Moreover, waterways transportation is the safest, most energy-efficient and environmentally sound mode of transportation.

We are pleased with provisions in this legislation designed to keep our ports and waterways open for business and protect the nation from floods. We appreciate the adjustment to the Olmsted cost share formula that will impact ongoing modernization projects on the Tennessee River, and the targets for increased expenditures from the harbor maintenance trust fund. In addition, the provisions to accelerate and streamline project delivery, enhance transparency, and provide for increased participation by non-Federal interests will assist in strengthening these critical investments.

We look forward to a swift enactment of this much-needed legislation, recognizing the critical role of our nation's water resources infrastructure to a robust economy, job creation, public safety and environmental well-being.

Sincerely,

Cline Jones **Executive Director**